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Docket No.: SON-2892
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tatsuya KATO, et al

Art Unit: 2652

Application No.: 10/748,288

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: December 31, 2003

Confirmation No. 8412

For: TAPE DRIVE APPARATUS AND
RECORDING AND/OR REPRODUCING
METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Applicant, through its representatives and attorneys, hereby brings to the attention of the examiner to be made of record the Japanese language document and its English language abstract noted on the accompanying PTO-1449. This submission is timely in that it is made prior to the first action on the merits of this application. This document is mentioned on page 4 of the specification as filed.

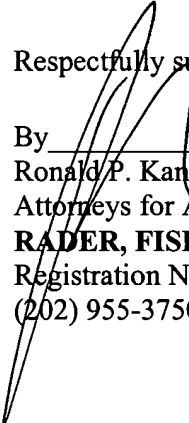
Consideration of this document in the initial examination is respectfully requested,
and an initialed PTO-1449 returned when convenient.

Dated: June 30, 2004

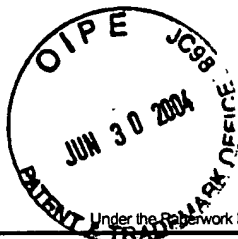
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Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	10/748,288
				Filing Date	December 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Tatsuya Kato
				Art Unit	2652
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SON-2892

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP 9-237474	09/09/97	Sony Corp.		X
	BB					
	BC					
	BD					
	BE					
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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